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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

ISSUED WEEKLY BY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Vol. 34

May 24, 1937

No. 21

L A T E C A B L E S . . .

Estimates of Japanese Ministry of Agriculture place May 1 stocks of rice at 12,058,611,000 pounds of cleaned rice, which figure is about 7 percent above stocks of 11,252,554,000 pounds on May 1, 1936. Probable imports through October, entirely from Chosen and Taiwan, estimated at 1,966,779,000 pounds, making a total supply of 14,025,390,000 pounds. Probable consumption during period May through October estimated at 10,801,162,000 pounds, and probable exports, including shipments within the Empire, at 64,485,000 pounds, making a total disappearance of 10,865,647,000 pounds, and leaving a carryover on November 1, 1937, of 3,159,743,000 pounds. The carryover on November 1, 1936, amounted to 2,579,382,000 pounds and on November 1, 1935, to 3,191,985,000 pounds. (Shanghai office, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.)

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GRAINS

The oriental wheat marketsChina

Wheat prices at Shanghai declined slightly during the week ended May 14, it was reported by radio from the Shanghai office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The decline was attributed to improvement in the 1937 domestic crop prospects, lower world prices, and increased arrivals of domestic wheat from the interior. Despite the improved crop prospects, indications still point to a 15-percent smaller crop than in 1936. Flour prices showed little change, with an upward tendency noted for near futures. Lack of interest in foreign wheat continued, and no purchases were expected before the close of the 1936-37 marketing year.

The futures prices of domestic wheat at Shanghai on May 14 were 85 cents per bushel for June delivery, 84 cents for July, and 86 cents for August delivery. Flour for May delivery was \$1.16 per bag of 49 pounds, July \$1.04, August \$1.05. The nominal price of Australian wheat was \$1.34 per bushel; Australian flour, c.i.f. Hong Kong, \$4.96 per barrel of 196 pounds.

Japan

Quotations on foreign wheat at Tokyo declined during April along with world prices but remained unchanged for domestic wheat, according to information from Consul General Garrels. Prices of flour for domestic consumption were lower but at Dairen, Manchuria, the principal export market for Japanese flour, quotations were maintained. No interest was shown in United States wheat, but relatively important quantities of Australian, Argentine, and some Canadian were imported during March and April. Stocks of wheat at marketing centers on May 1 were below average, but mill activity was considered normal.

JAPAN: Imports of wheat by countries of origin and total exports of flour, March 1936 and 1937, July-March 1935-36 and 1936-37

Country and item	March		July-March	
	1936	1937	1935-36	1936-37
<u>Imports of wheat</u>	<u>1,000 bushels</u>	<u>1,000 bushels</u>	<u>1,000 bushels</u>	<u>1,000 bushels</u>
United States..	7	-	92	129
Canada.....	249	75	1,176	2,112
Australia.....	1,705	712	8,250	2,180
Argentina.....	35	333	630	333
Manchuria.....	-	79	881	875
China.....	-	-	7	738
Others.....	3	-	234	62
Total.....	1,999	1,199	11,270	6,429
	<u>1,000 barrels</u>	<u>1,000 barrels</u>	<u>1,000 barrels</u>	<u>1,000 barrels</u>
<u>Exports of flour..</u>	337	73	1,765	786

Wheat at the mill on May 1 was quoted as follows, import duty and landing charges included: Western White No. 2, \$1.78 per bushel; Canadian No. 1, \$1.91, No. 3, \$1.82; Australian \$1.58; Manchurian \$1.63 per bushel. Domestic standard wheat was \$1.27 per bushel and Portland wheat, c.i.f. Yokohama, \$1.42, duty and landing charges excluded. The wholesale price of flour at the mill on May 1 was \$1.38 per bag of 49 pounds; c.i.f. Dairen, \$1.27 per bag.

COTTON

Chinese imports of American cotton continue low

China's March imports of American raw cotton amounted to 2,603 bales as against 1,785 bales in February and 4,688 bales in March 1936, according to the Shanghai office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Takings of American cotton during the period, October-March 1936-37, were 8,679 bales compared with 37,628 bales during a similar 1935-36 period.

Weather conditions for cotton planting have improved in most sections of China during the past month. In most North China districts, rainfall has been sufficient for planting and for early growth of the crop, while in the Yangtze Valley weather conditions have continued relatively favorable.

Prices of American middling at Shanghai during the past month declined from 18.38 cents per pound to 17.46 cents. During the same period, prices of domestic cotton rose as a result of the active yarn demand and some speculative buying. The advance in Chinese staple and the decline in prices of Indian have brought the two growths to near parity and some Indian has been bought for future delivery.

Chinese mills continue to operate at full capacity, and it is reported that practically the entire mill production for the next 4 months has been sold. Yarn prices have advanced proportionately more than those of raw cotton, which is resulting in an increase of spinners' profits.

CHINA: Imports of raw cotton in March 1937, with comparisons
(In bales of 500 pounds)

Growth	March		October - March	
	1936	1937	1935-36	1936-37
	<u>Bales</u>	<u>Bales</u>	<u>Bales</u>	<u>Bales</u>
American.....	4,688	2,603	37,628	8,679
Indian.....	4,276	1,017	8,981	5,969
Egyptian.....	1,189	5,286	12,976	17,719
Others.....	11	548	294	15,117
Total.....	10,164	9,454	59,879	47,484

CHINA: Stocks in Shanghai public warehouses, April 30, 1937,
with comparisons

Growth	1936	1937	
	April 30	March 31	April 30
	<u>Bales</u>	<u>Bales</u>	<u>Bales</u>
American.....	6,000	3,000	3,000
Indian.....	15,000	--	1,000
Chinese.....	104,000	159,000	123,000
Egyptian.....	1,000	2,000	1,000
Others.....	2,000	1,000	2,000
Total.....	128,000	165,000	130,000

FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND NUTS

Italian production of deciduous fruit low in 1936

Production of deciduous fruits in Italy totaled about 929,168 short tons in 1936, exclusive of wine grapes, compared with 1,054,331 tons in 1935. The apple, pear, and plum crops were larger than in 1935, but table grapes, cherries, peaches, and apricots were smaller crops. The most important crops are apples, pears, table grapes, and peaches, as shown in the table below.

ITALY: Production of deciduous fruits, 1935 and 1936

Kind of fruit	1935	1936
	<u>Short tons</u>	<u>Short tons</u>
Apples.....	267,647	276,526
Pears.....	181,387	211,326
Grapes, table.....	159,506	112,528
Cherries.....	84,284	70,157
Peaches.....	281,242	182,196
Plums.....	47,698	51,529
Apricots.....	32,567	24,905

Prospects point to fairly good fruit crops in 1937, but it is still too early to make any definite forecasts. The size of the crop in Italy has a definite bearing on exports of deciduous fruits from the early districts of the United States, particularly California. Germany is the chief outlet for Italian fruit. Considerable quantities also are exported to Austria, France, Switzerland, and other nearby countries.

Large summer lemon crop in Sicily

A bumper summer lemon (Verdelli) crop seems to be assured in Sicily, according to a communication from Vice Consul W. Everett Scotten at Palermo.

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The trade was of the opinion that the crop in the Palermo region was twice as large as that of last season. As a result of the small winter crop, prices in April continued high and late winter lemons were still moving out under the influence of those prices despite the large summer crop, which will start to move out about the last of May.

The Verdilli lemon market was in a state of confusion since shippers considered opening prices far too high. A little forward buying was done early in April at a level which would be equal to \$4.50 per box c.i.f. New York. Prices around the middle of April had risen about 15 percent. Shippers felt that they could neither buy lemons at these prices nor sell for future delivery. Damage to the California crop encouraged growers to believe that a profitable outlet might be secured in Canada, where lemons are duty-free. Growers are hoping for an early heat wave to occur in Europe, which would stimulate a demand for their lemons and help to prevent a decline in price.

World supplies of summer oranges plentiful

Larger crops of summer oranges are expected in Brazil and South Africa this year, but the California crop will be lighter. Even if only small quantities are exported from California, the increased supplies available for export from Brazil and South Africa should more than make up for the reduction. About 4,000,000 boxes are expected to go forward from Brazil. Out of this total, around 2,500,000 boxes were reported by the British Imperial Economic Committee as destined for the United Kingdom. Imports of oranges into the United Kingdom from Brazil in 1936 amounted to 1,912,000 boxes. A large orange crop will be harvested in South Africa and unofficial estimates place the exports to the United Kingdom at 3,000,000 boxes. Imports into the United Kingdom of South African oranges in 1936 amounted to 2,143,000 boxes. Around 612,000 boxes of oranges were received in the United Kingdom from California in 1936.

Cuban exports of fresh vegetables decline in April

Adverse weather conditions greatly reduced the quantities of vegetables suitable for export to the United States from Cuba in April with the result that exports dropped to the lowest figure in the past 5 years. Total exports amounted to 1,224 short tons compared with 5,856 tons in March and with 2,893 tons in April 1936. The chief exports were tomatoes, eggplant, and okra. The month of April practically closes the winter export season, which begins in November. Exports in May consist principally of okra, on which the seasonal preferential rate of duty in the United States is applicable until May 31. Total exports from November to April, 1936-37, amounted to 37,861 tons against 42,037 tons in 1935-36 and 35,413 tons in 1934-35. Exports in 1933-34, the season preceding the negotiation of the trade agreement with the United States, were 23,507 tons.

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OILS AND OILSEEDS

Mediterranean basin olive oil supplies small

The quantity of oil obtained from the 1936 olive crop in the Mediterranean Basin countries was smaller than expected at the time of harvest, according to a report from Agricultural Attache, N. I. Nielsen at Paris. Because of civil war conditions in Spain, it has not been possible to make the usual survey, although it is believed that the Spanish olive oil production from the 1936 crop was about 385,000 short tons. On that assumption, it is estimated that the total production of edible olive oil from the 1936 olive crop in the Mediterranean Basin, inclusive of Spain, approximated 737,000 tons. This represents a decrease of 27 percent when compared with the 1,013,100 tons produced from the 1935 olive crop and is 21 percent under the 6-year average, 1929-30 to 1934-35, of 929,000 tons.

Spain is known to be the largest producer and exporter of olive oil, and the curtailment of its trade since the civil war has improved the position of the other olive oil exporting countries. It is estimated, however, that the olive oil produced from the 1936 olive crop in the Mediterranean Basin countries, exclusive of Spain, amounted to only about 352,000 tons. This is 33 percent less than the production of 528,000 tons from the 1935 olive crop, 35 percent below the 6-year average of 544,100 tons, and is the smallest olive oil production for this group of countries in many years.

OLIVE OIL: Estimated production in Mediterranean Basin,
average 1929-30 to 1934-35, annual 1935-36 and 1936-37

Region	Average	1935-36		1936-37	
	1929-30 to 1934-35	1935-36		1936-37	
	Short tons	Short tons		Short tons	
Spain.....	384,900	a/	485,000	b/	385,000
Italy.....	223,600		231,400		166,200
Greece.....	119,300		97,000		70,500
Portugal.....	52,900		58,100		30,300
France.....	7,900		8,200		8,800
Yugoslavia.....	5,100		2,200		1,800
Turkey.....	26,400		13,800		19,800
Palestine.....	2,500		10,000		3,100
Syria and Lebanon	12,900		14,000		10,300
French Morocco...	11,000		8,000		11,000
Algeria.....	20,800		16,200		10,000
Tunisia.....	58,400		66,200		20,000
Tripolitania.....	3,300		3,000		600
Total.....	929,000		1,013,100		737,400
Excl. Spain..	544,100		528,100		352,400

Compiled by Paris office of Bureau of Agricultural Economics. a/ The 1935-36 production was officially reported at 424,700 tons but that is generally regarded as being too low. b/ Rough estimate as no definite information available; trade estimates vary from 300,000 to 500,000 tons.

As for supplies, it is believed that on December 31, 1936, old-crop stocks of olive oil in the Mediterranean Basin as a whole were larger than they were on the corresponding date of the preceding year, but that this increase was confined entirely to Spain. With regard to total supplies for the 1937 marketing year, inclusive of Spain, however, it is believed that they will be at least 33 percent smaller than those of 1936. This is caused by the short oil production from the 1936 olive crop as well as the small supplies in existence at the beginning of the year in olive oil producing countries other than Spain.

With shipments from Spain drastically curtailed and with light supplies in other olive oil producing countries, it is expected that the prevailing high prices for edible olive oil will continue at least until exports from Spain become normal again.

OLIVE OIL (EDIBLE): Exports and imports, producing countries,
average 1930-1935, annual 1935 and 1936

Country	Average 1930-1935	1935	1936
	<u>Short tons</u>	<u>Short tons</u>	<u>Short tons</u>
EXPORTS			
Spain.....	77,270	68,415	a/ 49,587
Italy.....	34,471	b/ 18,500	15,353
Greece.....	15,333	12,289	8,850
Portugal.....	3,352	2,813	4,145
France.....	12,076	13,876	14,350
Turkey.....	10,252	7,345	c/
Algeria.....	14,152	21,876	9,581
Tunisia.....	40,627	45,488	d/ 24,923
Others.....	3,777	4,500	c/
Total.....	211,310	195,102	
IMPORTS			
Spain.....	-	-	-
Italy.....	50,483	33,000	12,038
Greece.....	-	-	-
Portugal.....	5,344	6,436	9,532
France.....	30,972	36,894	37,106
Turkey.....	44	-	c/
Algeria.....	416	253	488
Tunisia.....	157	107	d/ 610
Others.....	4,863	5,000	c/
Total.....	92,279	81,690	

Compiled by Paris office of Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

a/ First 6 months of 1936, which may be compared with 29,554 in the first 6 months of 1935.

b/ Estimated.

c/ Not available.

d/ First 9 months.

OLIVE OIL (EDIBLE): Imports into the United States, by countries,
1933-1936

Country	1933	1934	1935	1936
	<u>Short tons</u>	<u>Short tons</u>	<u>Short tons</u>	<u>Short tons</u>
In packages weighing less than 40 pounds-				
France.....	328	287	254	227
Italy.....	15,570	10,949	12,870	8,908
Spain.....	1,245	1,012	1,320	908
Others.....	64	54	66	88
Total.....	17,207	12,302	14,510	10,131
In packages weighing 40 pounds or more-				
France.....	879	919	849	1,586
Italy.....	6,324	3,896	5,042	2,778
Spain.....	9,778	10,688	14,202	15,286
Algeria & Tunisia.	634	82	314	816
Others.....	1,180	112	483	389
Total.....	18,775	15,697	20,890	20,855
Grand total.....	35,982	27,999	35,400	30,986

Compiled by Paris office of Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Rapeseed crops in China and Japan reduced

It is now estimated that the 1937 production of rapeseed in China will be from 5 to 10 percent below the poor 1936 crop, according to the Shanghai office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. No definite figures are available for rapeseed production in China. The current crop is now being harvested and it is reported that the quality also is below that of the 1936 crop. Exports for 1936 amounted to 20,000 short tons and for 1935 to 72,000 tons. Japan is the leading market for Chinese rapeseed.

An active interest continues in purchases of new-crop seed. Prices for the new crop for June and July delivery declined slightly during the second week of May. For the past month prices have ranged between \$2.16 and \$2.21 per 100 pounds. Advance season prices a year ago averaged around \$1.81 per 100 pounds.

Unofficial reports now indicate that the 1937 rapeseed crop in Japan probably will be from 10 to 15 percent below the 1936 production.

COTTON: Price per pound of representative raw cotton at Liverpool,
May 14, with comparisons

Growth	1937							
	March				April			May
	a/ 25	2	9	16	23	30	7	14
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
American -								
Middling.....	16.18	16.25	16.04	15.30	15.42	14.88	15.32	14.65
Low Middling.....	14.65	14.72	14.51	13.77	13.87	13.33	13.78	13.10
Egyptian (Fully good fair):								
Sakellaridis	25.81	26.02	25.13	24.68	24.49	23.08	23.76	22.73
Uppers.....	19.76	19.88	19.18	18.66	20.17	19.04	20.14	19.34
Brazilian (Fair) -								
Ceara	14.86	14.93	14.72	13.97	14.08	13.54	13.99	13.31
Sao Paulo.....	15.77	15.84	15.64	14.89	15.00	14.46	14.91	14.24
East Indian -								
Broach (Fully good).....	12.42	12.50	12.74	12.39	12.45	12.14	12.53	12.08
C. P. Comra No. 1, Superfine	13.03	12.91	12.84	12.50	12.56	12.24	12.63	12.18
Sind (Fully good).....	11.60	11.79	11.78	11.68	11.81	11.50	11.89	-
Peruvian (Good)								
Tanguis	20.35	20.43	20.22	19.50	19.64	19.10	19.54	-

Converted at current exchange rate.

a/ Thursday prices, due to holiday Friday.

BUTTER: Price per pound in New York, San Francisco, Copenhagen, and London,
May 20, 1937, with comparisons

Market and description	1936	1937	
	May 21	May 13	May 20
	Cents	Cents	Cents
New York, 92 score	27.0	33.5	31.8
San Francisco, 92 score.....	29.0	31.5	32.5
Copenhagen, official quotation	18.4	18.2	18.7
London:			
Danish	24.0	23.8	24.3
New Zealand	21.7	23.6	23.9
Dutch.....	20.2	22.5	23.0

Foreign prices converted at current rates of exchange.

BUTTER: New Zealand grading, 1936-37 season to May 7,
with comparisons

Date	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37
	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
<u>Week ended</u>			
August 1 to February 26.....	224,239	242,794	254,067
March 5.....	6,323	7,784	8,064
12.....	6,160	7,952	8,002
19.....	6,384	7,336	7,672
26.....	5,880	6,440	6,328
March total.....	24,752	29,512	30,066
April 2.....	5,712	6,440	7,056
9.....	5,768	5,600	6,406
16.....	4,558	5,656	6,216
23.....	4,760	4,704	5,712
30.....	4,480	4,704	5,247
April total.....	25,278	27,104	30,637
May 7.....	3,696	3,864	4,256
Total August 1 to May 7.....	277,965	303,274	319,026

Agricultural Attaché C. C. Taylor, London.

BUTTER: Australian grading, 1936-37 season to May 1,
with comparisons

Date	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37
	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
<u>Week ended</u>			
July 1 to January 30.....	182,750	153,564	111,344
July 1 to February 27.....	a/	179,053	132,602
March 6.....	a/	4,601	5,398
13.....	a/	4,027	4,995
20.....	a/	3,799	4,329
27.....	a/	3,774	4,400
March total.....	a/	16,201	19,122
April 3.....	a/	3,761	4,178
10.....	a/	2,733	4,200
17.....	a/	3,076	3,644
24.....	a/	2,701	3,223
April total.....	a/	12,271	15,245
May 1.....	a/	2,222	2,444
Total July 1 to May 1.....	b/ 182,750	209,747	169,413

Weekly Dairy Produce Notes, Imperial Economic Committee. a/ Not available.

b/ Total to January 30. Later statistics not available.

EXCHANGE RATES: Average weekly and monthly values in New York of specified currencies, May 15, 1937, with comparisons a/

Country	Monetary Unit	Month					Week-ended		
		1935	1936	1937			1937		
		Apr.	Apr.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May 1	May 8	May 15
		Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Argentina....	Paper peso.	32.22	32.95	32.63	32.57	32.77	32.94	32.91	32.93
Canada.....	Dollar.....	99.53	99.50	99.96	100.05	100.12	100.18	100.20	100.20
China.....	Shang. yuan	38.79	29.73	29.60	29.66	29.71	29.81	29.80	29.81
Denmark.....	Krone.....	21.59	22.06	21.85	21.81	21.94	22.06	22.04	22.05
England.....	Pound.....	483.68	494.27	489.39	488.51	491.63	494.17	493.63	494.04
France.....	Franc.....	6.60	6.59	4.66	4.59	4.50	4.46	4.49	4.48
Germany.....	Reichsmark.	40.26	40.24	40.23	40.22	40.21	40.21	40.21	40.15
Italy.....	Lira.....	8.28	7.89	5.26	5.26	5.26	5.26	5.26	5.26
Japan.....	Yen.....	28.37	28.87	28.53	28.49	28.64	28.80	28.77	28.78
Mexico.....	Peso.....	27.94	27.77	27.75	27.75	27.75	27.75	27.75	27.75
Netherlands..	Guilder....	67.46	67.89	54.69	54.70	54.76	54.82	54.87	54.95
Norway.....	Krone.....	24.30	24.83	24.59	24.54	24.70	24.83	24.80	24.82
Sweden.....	Krona.....	24.93	25.48	25.23	25.19	25.34	25.46	25.45	25.47
Switzerland..	Franc.....	32.36	32.58	22.83	22.79	22.79	22.90	22.88	22.88

Federal Reserve Board. a/ Noon buying rates for cable transfers.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT: Price per 100 pounds in specified European markets, May 12, 1937, with comparisons a/

Market and item	Week ended		
	May 13	May 5	May 12
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Germany:			
Price of hogs, Berlin.....	17.70	16.79	16.79
Price of lard, tcs., Hamburg.....	11.82	12.84	12.63
United Kingdom: <u>b/</u>			
Prices at Liverpool first quality -			
American green bellies	Nominal	17.08	17.09
Danish Wiltshire sides.....	20.40	20.94	20.94
Canadian green sides.....	17.74	18.73	18.74
American short cut green hams.....	21.08	20.94	20.95
American refined lard.....	12.40	14.49	14.43

Liverpool quotations are on the basis of sale from importer to wholesaler.

a/ Converted at current rate of exchange. b/ Week ended Friday.

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